AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Entry Approved DK 2/7/05

Please replace the entirely redacted specification with the substitute specification, a clean copy of which follows beginning on a separate page:

~~BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION~~

~~1. Field of the Invention~~

~~The present invention relates generally to article telescopic lifting and transport devices. More particularly, the invention concerns a dolly-like apparatus which is specially designed for use in telescopic lifting and transporting hot water heaters into attics.~~

~~2. Discussion of the Prior Art~~

~~Article telescopic lifting and transport devices such as two wheeled transport dollies are well known in the art. However, such devices are not well suited for telescopic lifting and transporting articles such as hot water heaters into attics. In this regard, because of the weight of the hot water heaters and their location of installation, telescopic lifting of the hot water heaters for repair or replacement is often cumbersome, difficult, and unsafe. For example, both commercial and residential water heaters are heavy, difficult to grip and exhibit a tendency to fall on workman while lifting into attic. Therefore, as a general rule, moving and installation of such hot water heaters is a two person or more operation so that the hot water heaters can be lifted and at the same time safely balanced. In the case of a hot water heater because of its weight and the location, it is often necessary to attach a pulley to cross rafters with a rope to pull or lower the hot water heater into place. This is inefficient, difficult and unsafe.~~

~~The thrust of the present invention is to overcome the prior art difficulties of handling hot water heaters by providing a specially designed, easy to use article telescopic transport dolly which can be used by one person to safely and easily lift and transport of such hot water heaters to attic location. The improved dolly includes strategically positioned, vertically adjustable telescopic lifting frame and a cooperating article stabilizing means which permits the hot water heaters to be lifted with minimum effort while they are being maintained in a stable orientation on the dolly. Both the telescopic lifting frame and the stabilizing means are adjustable so that upon moving the lifting plate of the apparatus into a downward operating position, the dolly can be used in a traditional manner such as a conventional two wheeled dolly. When the telescopic lifting frame, the stabilizing means and the lifting plate are in their retracted position, the dolly assumes a low profile configuration for easy storage and transport.~~

~~A number of lifting devices have been suggested in the past for limited lifting and transporting devices. One such device is disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 5,358,217 issued to Dach. This patent describes a four wheeled dolly for lifting lawn and garden tractors by which can be lifted by a hydraulic jack unit.~~

~~Another somewhat similar prior art lift and rotate device is disclosed U.S. Pat. No. 5,839,876 issued to McCarthy and Bacella. The McCarthy and Bacella device comprises a 4 wheeled dolly having a lift and rotate assembly.~~

~~Still another hand dolly for vertical lifting and transporting small loads is described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,114,118 issued to Schrader. This apparatus includes a 4 wheeled wheeled movable frame and a frame designed to lift and transport light loads.~~

~~There are no transporting and telescopic devices for lifting of hot water heaters from floor to attic. A lack of functionally of many of the prior art lifting and transport devices is that the devices tend to be of very~~